

## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING ERECTILE SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION USING LIGHT ENERGY

### Abstract of the Disclosure

5

Light energy, preferably at a wavelength of 884 nanometers, is applied to the genitalia area of male and female humans and animals to treat erectile sexual dysfunction. The light causes the release of nitric oxide into the erectile genitalia tissue, and the nitric oxide causes the smooth erectile tissue to relax and engorge, thereby facilitating erection. Separately structured applicators for males and females optimize the degree of light energy penetration and the amount of nitric oxide released according to the separate physiology of males and females. The light energy may be used to augment a pharmacologically-induced release of nitric oxide.

10